



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
Building 96
380 Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe, VA 23651*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

May 7, 2019

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2019 GENERAL CATEGORY HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY EFFECTIVE SUNSET, May 9th, 2019.

Effective Sunset, Thursday, May 9th, 2019, the Virginia Horseshoe Crab General Category Permit commercial fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have harvested 100% of the horseshoe crab general category quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab General Category Permittees, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after Sunset, May 9th, 2019, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl, dredge, pound net, or by hand shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact Ethan Simpson (757) 247-2272.